

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 21, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

ABSTRACT

~~An air conditioning monitoring and control system (100) is provided, which is capable of performing manufacturer private and precise monitoring and control of air conditioners while enabling communication between air conditioners (30a, 30b ..., 31) and control devices (21, 22) using an open protocol.~~

An ~~The~~ air conditioning monitoring and control system includes an (100) comprises the air conditioner (30a, 30b ..., 31), ~~the~~ a first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) and ~~the~~ a second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22). The first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) communicates with the air conditioner ~~conditioners~~ (30a, 30b ..., 31) via a first communication line (53). ~~In addition, this~~ The first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) includes ~~includes~~ a first monitoring and control means function and a second monitoring and control means function. The second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22) communicates with the air conditioner ~~conditioners~~ (30a, 30b ..., 31) via a second communication line (53). ~~In addition, this~~ The second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22) include ~~includes~~ the first monitoring and control means function and a third monitoring and control means function.